

THE BULLDOG BARK



Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Northern Lehigh Middle School

Summer 2013

Issue Four

Never too late to care

Simple effort can create your proper path

If you don't care, please stop right here. Go no further; read no more words. Just put this down and I'll thank you and say, "Have a good day."

For those who continue, I want to end this year with a final message of that one word – *care*. (Those who did not endure beyond the first sentence evidently know more than I need to teach, so now it's just you and me).



Mr. Barnes

My late father had very high expectations for his three children and no matter what our interests, what we experienced or where we went in this world, all he wanted us to do was *care*. This is a word, lesson, standard and demand that has come to life all year in Room 24.

Too often, I (and the rest of our team) saw students who did not care about items that seem tiny in importance to them, but

See Care, page 2

2013's Senior King and Queen



The Prom Queen of 2013 was Iris Fogelman, Jennifer Knerr's godmother, and the Prom King was Norman Handwerk, Meghan Handwerk's grandfather.

By Karlyna Kemery
Team 8

The 2013 Senior Citizen Prom was a great experience. The theme this year was the Year of the Dragon. About 180 senior citizens attended.

The National Junior Honor Society did a great job planning and setting up. To start the night we had them play a matching game with the zodiac sign.

If they found the person born in one of the years listed

See Prom, page 3

‘A Chinese New Year’ was a major success



Members of NLMS's National Junior Honor Society helped make the 2013 Senior Prom a major success.

Oh, you want to keep reading? That says something

Care, from page 1

are huge in character from our perspective.

No *care* that a test was failed. No *care* that a homework assignment was not finished or even attempted. No *care* that certain language was used in direct presence of a teacher. No *care* to ever improve their downward spiraling reputation. I'd love to know why but no student ever cared to give me an answer. (At least one that I accepted).

So for you eighth-graders who will be sauntering across the parking lot to the high school next year, remember that things

will not get easier. In fact, each year from now on, and even after high school, will not improve in regards to the "good old days" here at the middle school. You will be just fine, however, if you choose to be.

For my seventh-graders who will leave our classrooms and head to the big-boy and big-girl offices of Grade 8, take a little wisdom with you. Ready? (If you have read this far, I will assume you care, so...)

There is a lesson in everything you do, and everything you do will reflect your character, which is built by your integrity, which all create your reputation.

As I raise my son, I can still hear my dad's words very clearly: "You must care." He didn't mind a failure here and there, as long as I tried, hustled, put forth effort and "got back on the horse." (Not an actual horse but you get my point. I hope.)

I realize it's tough to learn lessons like this at your age but one day, it will become clearer and then it's your turn to pass it on.

Look at it this way: If you cared enough to read this far, why not continue?

See you around, my good people.

2013 Senior Prom a success thanks to all



Prom, from page 1

under their zodiac sign, they could receive a Chinese yo-yo and a finger trapper.

Next, Aiden Burke played the piano. After he finished playing, Mrs. Becker gave the prayer and the table servers began their job.

While the senior citizens ate, Tori Lear sang for entertainment. Next, we had a cakewalk for the men and women. We gave away 40 cakes.

Then, the Emerald Dragon Thrill Show performed. After

they finished came the highlight of the prom: the announcement of the Prom King and Queen!

The Prom Queen of 2013 was Iris Fogelman, Jennifer Knerr's godmother, and the Prom King was Norman Handwerk, Meghan Handwerk's grandfather.

The Prom King and Queen had a dance together. The DJ played the last few slow-dancing songs of the night, and everyone danced. Seeing all those senior citizens with a smile on their faces was a pleasure. It made me feel so

good to help make this prom possible. I want to give a special thanks to Mr. Eckhart for the awesome decorations, Mrs. Bowser for the delicious food, Mr. Graver for taking all the time to plan the whole prom, the Honor Society's parents for their help and continued support, and to the National Junior Honor Society members for their help with everything.

Because of everyone's effort, it was a great night! This is a memory I will never forget!



OPINION

8th Grade Reflections:

Too many memories to count

By Jennifer Knerr

It is hard to believe that this school year will soon be in the past!

There is no way to describe how fast my years in the middle school have gone. But there is also no way to count all of the memories that I have made.

It feels like just yesterday I walked through the doors, extremely nervous, as a seventh grader. I have grown so much, made everlasting friendships,

and I have enjoyed every second of it.

I feel that I have made the most of my middle school years. If I had the opportunity to go back in time and change anything from the past two years I would leave everything exactly the way that it is. I am truly going to miss coming to the middle school every morning (no matter how early I had to be here!)

I have found and expressed myself here and I will never forget that. If there is one thing that I

have gotten out of being an eighth grader, it is that you should always try your best, believe in yourself, and don't be afraid to be who you are. In the end, it's not going to matter what others thought of you.

What really matters is what you thought of yourself. I see myself now as a more independent person, and although I have much more learning to experience, I am

See Knerr, page 5

Staying active and involved made the time fly

By Breanna Hoffman

It's finally the end of the year and while everyone is looking forward to the summer break, we'll still miss our school activities and the wonderful times we had with friends.

The idea of school is different to everyone. Some, like me, take it seriously while others don't. It may be a place to fool around and spend time with their friends according to some people, but to me it's a place to further our education and be able to get a good job later on so we can have a good life.

Yes, it is OK to have fun and enjoy yourself, but only when it's appropriate, and I feel that school is made to teach us more and that is what our parents are paying for, not for us to fool around.

Eighth grade was a good year for me. It helped me find out who I am, what I have to do to do well in school and how much I can be involved in before it becomes too much.

Over the 8th grade year I was involved in marching band, regular band, choir, ACE team, student council, National Junior Honor Society, yearbook committee, show choir and swim team.

When you read the list, you might think it's a lot, but to me it wasn't that bad.

Yes, I was barely home, but I still had enough time to keep up my grades and I never got a C or below on my report card. I learned how to balance school and all my activities and was able to do my homework on the road and in between activities.

During my 8th grade year I learned a lot about myself. I learned who my real friends are and what my strongest subjects are. I realized what I like to do

See Hoffman, page 5

Goofy Civil War Antics



Gavin Kemery, a freshman at NLHS, returned to the middle school to help with Civil War Days.

(Photo by Karlyna Kemery)

Reflections

Knerr, from page 4

now prepared to be a high school student.

As we move on to the high school I want to thank all of the teachers for getting me to where I am today, thank my best friends for supporting me through each and every moment, wish good luck to my fellow eighth graders, and I hope that the seventh graders have a wonderful experience during their last year of middle school.

I now look forward to the high school, but I hold on to so many memories from middle school that will stay in my heart forever!

Hoffman, from page 4

and I began to form ideas about my future and what I would like to do when I grow up.

During this year I found out that I am capable of understanding things quickly and easily. Also during my 8th grade year I learned that true friends won't turn their back against you just because of something stupid and then want to go back to being friends the next week.

They are the ones who'll have your back when no one else does. I think that this year went well and I hope that all the things I learned will stick with me through high school.



OPINION

7th Grade Reflections:

Not necessarily torture after all

By **Tori Csanadi**

Before I started seventh grade, I was that girl who counted down the days to school starting in August.

I just really wanted to be trusted enough by teachers to keep myself organized and be responsible enough to get through every day without failing seventh grade.

Of course, like most, by the third week of school, I was ready for summer again. Sadly, I had nine months of torture left.

I wouldn't exactly call it torture, though. I had some good

times this year. In class, I could look forward to learning new things. This year's classes were the most fun in my eight years of school.

There wasn't too much homework, either, which does make this experience better.

But with pros there are always cons. I might be freaking out because it's 10 p.m. and I still haven't done my homework. Or maybe I get to math knowing I have a quiz or test, and miraculously forget everything I learned in the past two weeks.

Maybe I realize I need to study and I forgot everything. I

can learn, but I can't possibly memorize some of these things.

Another downfall to this year is that I became a teenager. Being a teenager means you're looked down upon by most adults. I can't have an opinion because I'm "too young to think for myself." Becoming a teenager, with the insecurities and everything, didn't help make this year amazing.

Maybe what made this year great was realizing who I was. I've realized where I fit in, where I can fit in, and where I don't fit in. I

See Csanadi, page 7

Lockers, dances, Pi day and concerts

By **Kristi Grabarits**

From the first turn of my locker's combination to the last step in the school, this has been the best school year of my life.

First thing's first: Meeting the teachers. All of the teachers have been awesome and have brightened all of my days. They are all great at what they do and how they do it.

Second is the Winter Dance. I think that 7th grade is a little young

to have a dance but everyone really enjoyed themselves. The outfits were amazing and the decorations were flawless.

Thank you to everyone who helped set up the dance and farewell.

Then there is Pi Day. The activities in all of the classes were fun and the pie at lunch was delicious. It was sort of like a day off of school. All that had to be done was to calculate a few numbers using Pi.

And now the dreaded PSSAs. The way the days were set up was great but the actual tests were kind of horrible. The days were cool because we had "recess" and a snack after the test. But in between those two things was the test itself. They were boring but necessary for 8th grade.

Then we had the Sandlot Heroes concert. Most of the girls went crazy over these guys. I have

See Grabarits, page 7

Prepared and even stronger for eighth grade

Csanadi, from page 6

remember saying in an English starter that my life was like a Ferris wheel.

I think now I'd fit into the rollercoaster. I was going down for a while, but I'm on my way up. And I'm planning on staying up for the rest of this year all the way to eighth grade. No matter what, I can carry on. I'm looking

forward to eighth grade because I know that no matter what comes my way, I'm ready to face it and I'm going to get through unscathed, maybe even stronger.

“When adults say, ‘Teenagers think they are invincible’ with that sly, stupid smile on their faces, they don’t know how right they are. We need never be hopeless, because we can never be irreparably broken. We think that we

are invincible because we are. We cannot be born, and we cannot die. Like all energy, we can only change shapes and sizes and manifestations. They forget that when they get old. They get scared of losing and failing. But that part of us greater than the sum of our parts cannot begin and cannot end, and so it cannot fail.”— John Green, *Looking For Alaska*

The greatest school year

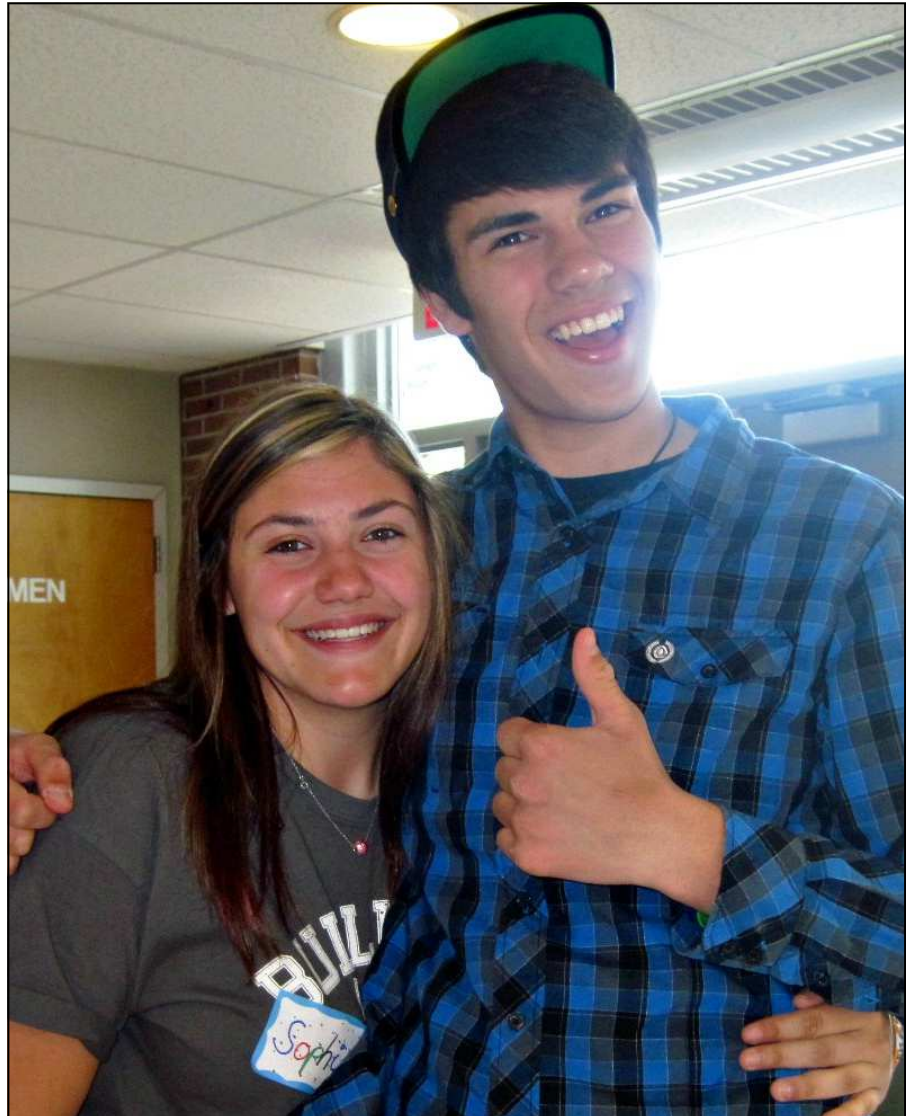
Grabarits, from page 6

to admit: they were really, really good. Their best songs were “Believer” and their cover of a Bruno Mars song. To be honest, they were the first concert I went to but they will be pretty hard to beat.

Next to last, we had the Women in History play that discussed all the great women throughout history. They play wasn’t the best but it definitely was not the worst. My favorite character was Susan B. Anthony. She was funny but she taught us a lot. For being educational, the play was really good.

Now the moment you have all been waiting for. The Farewell Dance. The music was amazing and all the dresses and ties were cool, too. While I didn’t go, I saw the decorations and most of the outfits.

To everyone who helped set up, thanks for a great conclusion to a great year of 7th grade.



NLHS student Sophie Hankee returned for Civil War Days, and to make Kaleb Filer smile.

Keep going because giving up is for quitters...

By Rachel Holmes

Team 7

I always see people giving up too quickly. It gets me really mad because anything is possible.

In class, sports or anywhere else, there always seems to be someone who gives up too soon.

For example, I was in gym and we were told to do as many push-ups as we can, and people complained. Yea, I may have taken the chance of being embarrassed because I can't do push-ups but I tried and that's all that matters.

I see this in school classes too because when we are reading and come across a hard word to pro-

nounce, people say, "Oh, I don't know that word so I will just skip it." At least try! Imagine trying to get a job and you have to do a task that you are not so good at. Then what? Are you just going

to say, "Oh well, I can't do that so I will just go home."

Some people don't want to do certain things because they will feel embarrassed. I understand



but that doesn't mean you don't do it.

If you want something, then work for it. Strive for your goals. Don't give up!

Being your true self is important

By Jaelese Vargas

Team 8

So many times I have seen people act different when they are around someone. If someone likes you, they should like you for who you are. You should not have to act like a completely different person when you're around them.

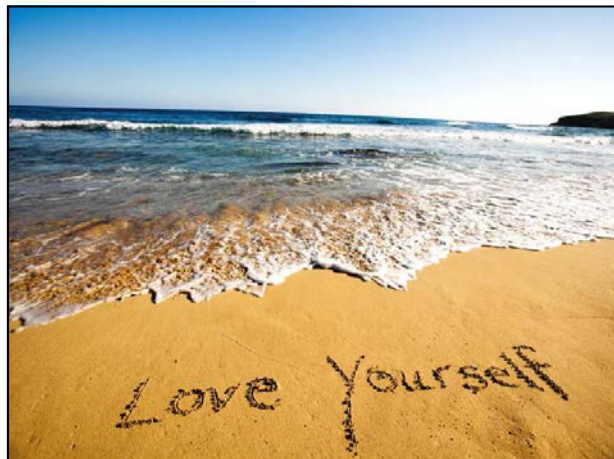
And I'm not talking about how some people are just shy around others. But acting like you're all that. Maybe more people will like you for you.

Sometimes being yourself is risking friendships. But it's either that or not being able to act like yourself.

Most of the time, you being yourself is meaning you're

having fun. You don't have to change for anyone.

Some days, you will come across people who don't like you. Not everyone you meet will like you, but that's life and if you get so worked up on making one person liking you, you're going to waste a lot of time.



WHY?

By Amelita Pjetrovic

Why?

Why is Justin Frable so tall?

Why is Marie Baretto so small?

Why does Tiffany Bowers pull my hair?

Why is Mrs. Becker awesome?

Why are there bullies?

Why are there best friends?

All I know is that I don't want it to end.

Why?

There's always a garbage can within reach

By Riley Adams

Team 7

Pollution. Why do we do it? Why do we ruin the world we wake up in every day?

I don't think many people bother to ask themselves this! Everyone is so worried about animals dying or nature becoming brown instead of green. Yet people don't realize that we, as the population, are doing this.

Why not try to stop it? Oh, we have excuses for everything. "I don't have the time." "It's too hard." "Why does it matter?"

Well, one: you most certainly do have the time to throw plastics in a recycling can. It's not that



hard. You throw things out every day. Why does it matter? Because this is our Earth and we need to respect it. We take many things for granted. Walking on a green, bright planet being one of them. It's rather sad that in some cases

they? None of that stuff in the media is!

The media want the juicy stuff. I bet pollution will be in there when the world is ending because of it. Take some time and recycle. It only takes throwing something into a different can.

even if there are recycling cans, they still go to landfills and sit for years.

This isn't a big problem in society's eyes. Instead, it's what superstar did what or what's happening to One Direction or Justin Bieber or Drake. C'mon, they're not providing our water and food, are

The anti-bullying argument continues

By Alexis Eck and
Briannia DeSanto

Team 7

Have you ever been through or heard of drama? I bet you have. Have you ever put it this way...that *drama is bullying and bullying is drama*.

Either way, vise versa they are basically the same thing. We have all been bullied quite a bit. I really don't like telling people about it; I like to keep to myself and solve problems on my own.

We all get to the point though where we can't take it anymore and we just give up! Speak up and tell someone what is going on; this doesn't belong happening to you or anybody.

This will never stop unless you put a stop to it. Problems won't just stop in a blink of an eye; they need to be solved one step at a time..

I like to say get to the bottom of that problem. Drama, Drama, Drama...it's everywhere you go!

It's like I heard this and then she *blab, blab, blab, blab, blab, blab, blab, blab*, shut up already. I don't want to hear it but guess what... they don't care.

We really don't get why people live off of drama. Let the person alone because they didn't do anything to you; besides it's probably drama that you brought yourself into and that you have no business being in.

This needs to stop; keep yourself and leave others alone because you are not perfect either.

What not to do with your passwords

By Kevin Kressler
Team 7

Have you had your account hacked for anything? I'll tell you how to make it more complicated. I'll make it short and simple since many of you people don't like to read.

What you should know about passwords is simple, short, hard and easy to remember. Don't use your name because that's easy to crack.

Don't use your pets' name, unless nobody knows the name of

your pet. You should make it random because it has nothing to do with your life, like *dumbocon*.

It's random, easy to remember, plus it has nothing to do with your life. Since it has nothing to do with your life, it is hard to crack. Take the name of your first grade teacher or pet, such as Kressler.

Change the e to a 3, an S to a 5, and an L to a 1. You get kr35513r. That may be easy to



crack, but it gives some extra protection.

Don't have it too long, such as adorablericky123456789. That's hard to crack, is long, and is too complicated to remember.

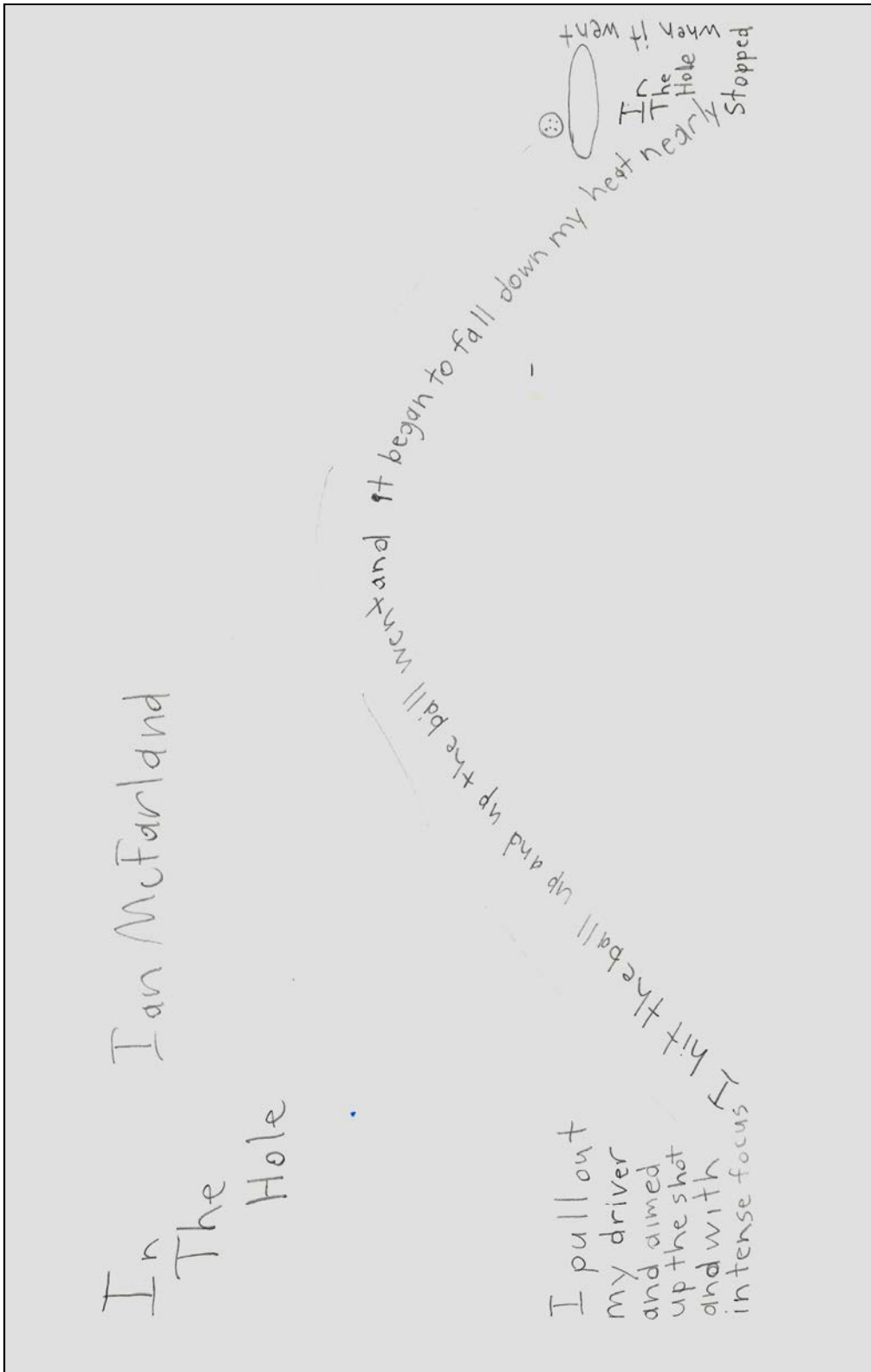


Jennifer Knerr helps with the Senior Prom. (Photo by Karlyna Kemery)

Civil War Days!



Photos by Karlyna Kemery



Boys

By Gio Rodriguez

Brave, awesome
Sweating, skateboarding, annoying
Temper, heartbreaker, cry-babies, pretty
Good-looking, gossiping, ice-skating,
Gross, smart

Girls

Girls

By Donna Rejician

Facebook, drama
Facebooking, talking, nagging
Softball, temper, football,
crybabies
Gossiping, amazing, texting
Hot, shirtless

Boys

MMA

By Manny Melendez

Punches, bloody
Kicking, swing, lifting
Throws, fighting, flips, broken
bones
Jumping, flipping, flying
Wall jumps, awesome

Ketchup

By Christian Torres

Red, tasty
Squirting, squeezing hurting
Burgers, hotdogs, rice, meat-
loaf
Eating, licking, slurping
Yellow, delicious

Mustard

Horse

By Kaitlin

Pretty, fast
Eating, sleeping, running
Farm, wild, zoo, africa
Grazing, playing, eating
Beautiful, dangerous
Zebra

